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Date: February 22, 2017

To: Connecticut General Assembly Appropriations Committee

From: Mary Tomolonius, CACT Executive Director

Email: apptestimony@cga.ct.gov

The Connecticut Association for Community Transportation is an organization devoted to promoting public transportation in Connecticut. Our members include transit agencies, vendors, transit supporters and organizations.

For far too long, Connecticut has diverted transportation revenues from transportation projects resulting in increased congestion, failing infrastructure, and the public's frustration trying to get place-to-place. Per OPM only 44.99% of the revenue collected in 2016 for the Special Transportation Fund was utilized for transportation.

We need to provide affordable transportation to work, educational institutions, health care, marketplaces, and the other places life takes us. Transportation connects us – but a robust, efficient system requires both adequate operational funding and capital investments to meet the needs of today and the future.

Transportation is critical to our state and while we recognize the difficult challenges your committee face any reductions will further erode our ability to meet the demands of our residents and businesses. We urge you to support transportation and maintain the Governors FY18-19 recommended transportation budget.

If CACT may be of assistance to you, please contact me at (860) 693-0368. Thank you.